Date: April 21, 2020

To: Physical, occupational, and speech therapists

From: Nathan Roberts, Traditional Programs manager
Medicaid Programs, Health Systems Division

Subject: Telehealth services provided by OT, PT, and Speech therapists are covered by OHP

During the COVID-19 emergency the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) will reimburse for the following therapy codes when provided via through a telehealth modality. Reimbursement will be the same as for services provided in-person.

- 97161-97168, 97110, 97112, 97116, 97535, 97550, 97760, 97761, 92521-92524, 92507

The following documents outline covered telehealth/telemedicine platforms and coverage requirements:

- The Health Evidence Review Commission’s Ancillary Guideline Note A5 (Telehealth, Teleconsultations and Online/Telephonic Services) from the Prioritized List of Health services.
- Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) 410-120-1200 (Excluded Services and Limitations), 410-130-0610 (Telemedicine), 410-131-0040(7) (PT/OT rule), and 410-129-0075 (Speech Language Pathology).

As with in-person services, providers must ensure meaningful access to language services as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act and corresponding federal law at 45 CFR Part 92 (Section 1557). This includes but is not limited to:

- American Sign Language interpretation services to individuals who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing and
- Spoken language interpretation services for individuals with limited English proficiency (LEP).

To learn more about providing language access services, visit the federal Office of Civil Rights website and read OHA’s questions and answers about language assistance services.

Why is this happening?
To ensure members have continued access to medically necessary and appropriate covered services, OHA is expanding coverage with authority from OAR 410-120-0011 (Effect of COVID-19 Emergency Authorities on Administrative Rules).

What should you do?
Please continue to provide covered therapy services to eligible OHP members as outlined in the provider rules and guidelines for your program. Use telehealth service delivery modes when appropriate.

- When billing for telehealth services, use Place of Service 02.
- If you do not have a synchronous audio/visual telehealth platform to perform face-to-face visits for initial assessments and/or re-evaluations, you must ask OHA for approval to conduct them by phone. To do this, submit a prior authorization request to OHA. Your supporting documentation must include a letter describing the barriers and how you will accomplish the assessment.
Other services conducted by phone do not require prior authorization during the COVID-19 emergency.

Questions?
If you have any questions about this announcement, contact the Provider Services Unit at DMAP.ProviderServices@dhsoha.state.or.us.

Thank you for your continued support of the Oregon Health Plan and the services you provide to our members.